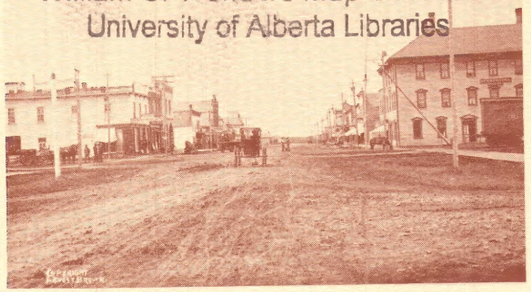
William C. Wonders Map Collection
University of Alberta Libraries

Z Box 25-82



Provincial Museum & Archives

CIVIC CENTRE

Connaught Armoury (1911)
85 Avenue & 103 Street

The Government of Canada built the armoury in 1911 to house the mess, drill hall, rifle range and regimental offices of the 19th Alberta Dragoons. The building sat vacant for ten years (1968-1978) until the Old Strathcona Foundation leased the building to a group of entrepreneurs to renovate and establish a quality restaurant. Note the limestone "cannonballs" mounted at the entrance.

Knox Presbyterian Church (1907)
8403 - 104 Street

This church was built in 1907 to replace the 1894 wooden structure which was moved to 10453 - 86 Avenue and converted into a duplex.

Strathcona Library (1913)
8331 - 104 Street

Completed in 1913, this is an example of English Renaissance architecture designed by Wilson & Herrald, Architects. The Edmonton Public Library Board still operates this as a community resource centre.

Orange Hall (1903)
83 Avenue & 104 Street

Just behind the library to the east, this white wooden structure was built in 1903 by its members and continues to this day as a meeting place for the lodge.

No. 6 Fire Hall (1910)
10322 - 83 Avenue

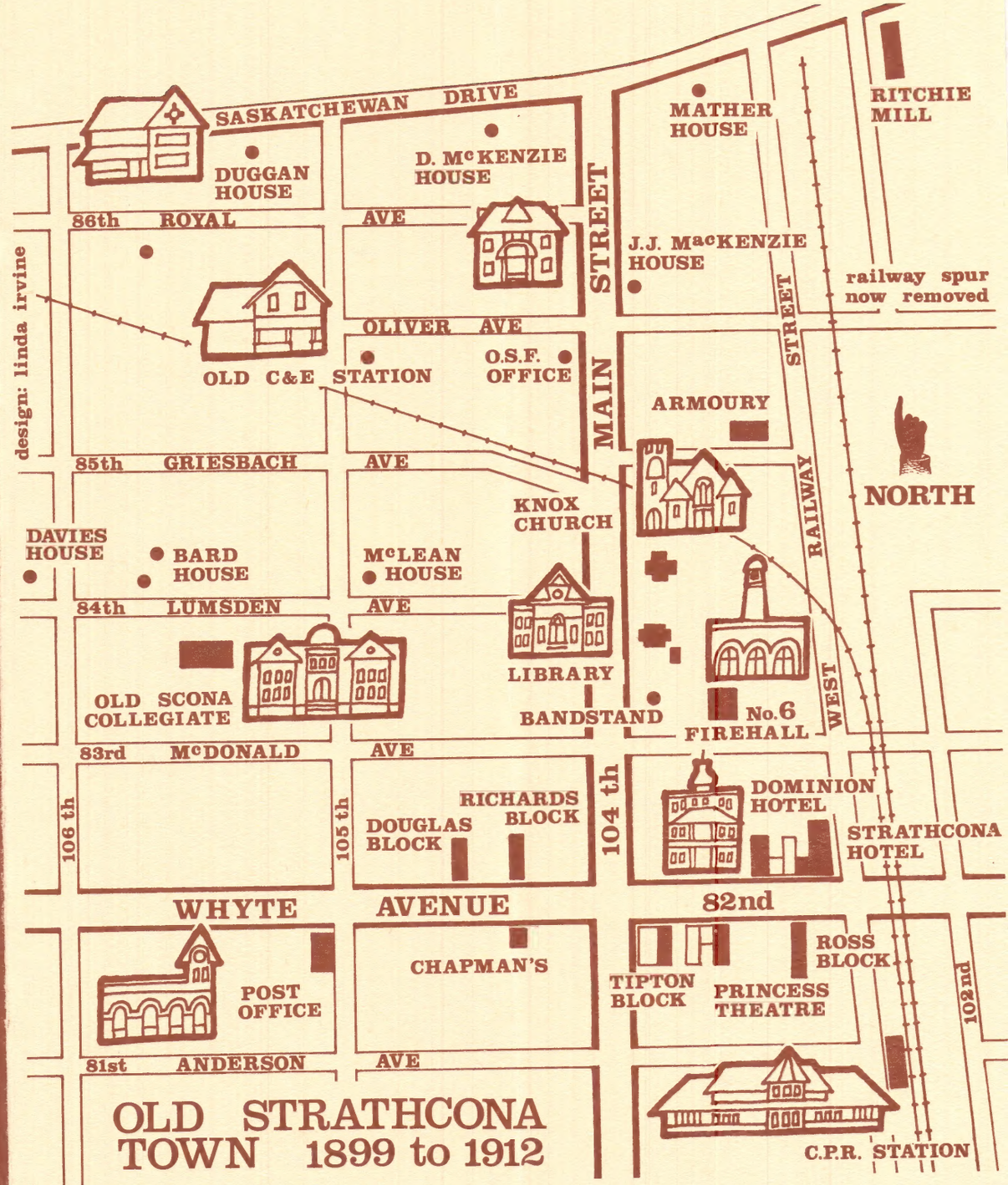
As the second home of Strathcona's volunteer fire department, it included stables and a hose tower. Walterdale Playhouse Theatre now offers year-round live theatre entertainment in the building.

Walk Through Old Strathcona

INCORPORATED 1899

THE CITY OF STRATHCONA
INCORPORATED 1899
ALBERTA

Old Strathcona Foundation



The Old Strathcona Foundation is a charitable society charged to promote the preservation of the erstwhile Town of Strathcona and to administer the Old Strathcona Heritage Conservation Area. Rich in heritage, this area retains many original buildings and streetscapes characteristic of a turn of the century prairie town.

Approximately:

75 homes were built prior to 1925 (of these 40 are pre 1914)

40 commercial and institutional buildings are pre 1925

12 buildings are presently designated by the Province as historic resources.

COMMERCIAL CORE

Strathcona CPR Station (1907)
81 Ave & 103 Street

Built in 1907 to headquarter the superintendent of all CPR operations north of Calgary. The "ski-jump" roofline and "tower" are architectural motifs used in many CPR Stations, reflecting French and British settlement influences. The Station will remain as the Whyte Avenue transit centre for the LRT, southside extension.

Strathcona Hotel (1891)
10301 Whyte Avenue

The oldest wooden frame commercial building and the first hotel in Old Strathcona. It was built by the Calgary & Edmonton Railway Co. at the end of the rail in 1891. Many Strathcona pioneers recall staying temporarily at the Strathcona until they found permanent accommodation. The facade was renovated by the owner in 1978.

Ross Block (1894)
10313 Whyte Avenue

The oldest brick building on Whyte Avenue, originally housed Strathcona's first hardware, tinsmithing and plumbing businesses. It is unique with its distinctive sweeping brick archways.

Imperial Bank of Commerce (1904)
10318 Whyte Avenue

Metal cornices imitating stone, window and pediment detailing, and vertical pilasters rising to an ornate cornice are typical of turn of the century bank buildings.

Glenbow Alberta Institute

Dominion Hotel (1903)
10324 Whyte Avenue

Once capped with a tower cupola and featuring ornate wooden balconies, this grand and impressive hotel welcomed weary travellers to Strathcona.

Rates $1.50 per day.

Schragge Bros. Store (1898)
10338 Whyte Avenue

Now known as the "Mart on Whyte", this is an original wooden structure common in style and materials to many turn of the century buildings.

Princess Theatre (1914)
10337 Whyte Avenue

Opened in 1915, the Princess Theatre featured musical concerts, vaudeville entertainment and later, motion pictures. It is built of local materials and fronted with marble imported from British Columbia. The two circular ceramic mosaics on the facade are noteworthy and the original elegant interior decor has been retained. The theatre is operated under the auspices of the Old Strathcona Foundation.

Gainer Block (1902)
10343 Whyte Avenue

The original occupant was J. Gainer and Co., Butchers and Pork Packers. The building was donated to the Old Strathcona Foundation in July 1976 by the Devonian Foundation so that it would be restored.

Hub News (pre 1900)
10345 Whyte Avenue

First used as a general store owned by Arthur Davies, twice mayor of Strathcona prior to its sale to the Hub Cigar Store Co. in 1910. The famous "wishing well" was located behind this store. It derived its name from settlers who **wished** they had a bit of whiskey to go with the water they drew up. It is noted that after an Indian woman was dragged up from the bottom of the well . . . all pledged to drink whiskey straight from that day on.

Tipton Block (1911)
10355 Whyte Avenue

This building was acquired by the Old Strathcona Foundation on a long term lease and is a demonstration project of commercial restoration. It was built in 1911 for R.A. Hulburt and bought in 1912 by J.G. Tipton & Sons for $40,000. Renovation costs in 1979 were $400,000.

Chapman Bros. Ltd. (pre 1900)
10423 Whyte Avenue

The Chapman family have operated a western wear and outfitters store in this wooden building since purchasing it from the Great West Saddlery Co. in 1912. The store has changed very little in appearance since its construction in the late 1890's.

Post Office Building (1911)
105 Street & Whyte Avenue

Finally completed in 1911, it housed the Post Office and Customs & Immigration Offices. The clock tower on this massive, yet elegant, building is similar to the tower on the now demolished main post office downtown.

Richards Block (1910)
10422 Whyte Avenue

A.H. Richards & Co. constructed this building as a general store, dance hall and meeting hall in 1910.

Douglas Block (1912)
10442 Whyte Avenue

This building was designed by Wilson and Herrald Architects (architects of the Princess Theatre and Strathcona Library) for James M. Douglas. The present owners are undertaking extensive interior and exterior renovation.

RESIDENTIAL AREA

McLean House (1894)
10454 - 84 Avenue

The "gingerbread" motif and ornamental woodwark detailing are the unique features of this house built in 1894 by Art McLean, hardware merchant. The house was purchased by the Foundation for renovation.

Strathcona Collegiate Institute
84 Avenue between 105 & 106 Streets

The cornerstone of this marble and brick structure was laid in 1907. From January 1909 to September 1911, the top floor housed the University of Alberta.

Davies Residence (1908)
84 Avenue and 106 Street

Built in 1908 for Arthur Davies, this remains as an excellent example of fine domestic architecture.

Bard House (1912)
10540 - 84 Avenue

This handsome and splendid brick residence with its symmetrical facade was built with a turntable in the driveway and a central vacuum system. Note the separate coach house to the east of the house.

Foundation House (1912)
8520 - 104 Street

Built in 1912 by Hugh Duncan, operator of Duncan's Drug Store at 104 Street and Whyte Avenue, this house was restored under a joint venture by the City of Edmonton and the Old Strathcona Foundation. It was inaugurated as the headquarters of the Foundation in August 1978.

Old Calgary & Edmonton Railway Station
86 Avenue and 105 Street

This wooden frame building, once located east of the Strathcona Hotel, welcomed the arrival of the Calgary & Edmonton Railway Co. train to Strathcona in August 1891. Replaced by the present CPR Station in 1907, it was used as a residence until its restoration by the Junior League of Edmonton in 1980.

For further information contact:

The Old Strathcona Foundation
8520 - 104 Street
Edmonton, Alberta T6E 4G4
(403) 433-0367